

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, a couple of years ago I made the difficult decision to fly home a little bit early from Washington to return to Savannah, GA, to see my 5-year-old's kindergarten graduation. I got on what can only be described as the flight from hell. I left Washington, flew to Atlanta, and then usually it is about a 30-minute flight to Savannah. We went to Augusta, could not get into Savannah, we ended up trying to get into Jacksonville, could not get into Jacksonville, went to Tampa, spent the night, and the next day went back to Atlanta, then tried again to get into Savannah. We could not.

As a consequence of all this hopping around and so forth and the weather, I missed my son's school event. It broke my heart. But do Members know what? As a Federal employee, at least I had the option of going home to see his play. In the private sector today, the Federal Government laws deny employees that option. They cannot take off work to go see somebody, to take them to the doctor or go see a school play or something.

But with this new legislation we are passing today, employees for the first time in the private sector will be able to work extra and take comp time off. They can go ahead and work the 40-hour workweek, and then take time off needed for those very important and irreplaceable family functions. I hope we can pass comp time today.

SUPPORT THE PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN

(Mr. MANZULLO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will vote to outlaw the practice known as a partial birth abortion. That procedure is both tragic and needless in that there are at least 2,000 such abortions performed annually, far more than advocates have initially claimed; needless in that we now know, thanks to Mr. Ron Fitzsimmons, executive director of the National Coalition of Abortion Providers, who has admitted that he and others misled the American people on the frequency and nature of these abortions, that the vast majority of partial-birth abortions are performed on normal, unborn babies carried by healthy moms.

President Clinton vetoed this bill last year. A number of pro-choice Members of Congress, during consideration of the measure over a year ago, voted in support of a ban on the partial birth abortion procedure. Said one Member, I am just not going to vote in such a way that I have to put my conscience on the shelf.

Ronald Reagan said it as he discussed the issue of defending America's liberty: There is no cause more important for preserving that freedom than af-

firming the transcendent right to life of all human beings, the right without which no other rights have any meaning.

Mr. Speaker, I implore my colleagues to join with me in voting to ban that practice.

□ 1115

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM AND OVERSIGHT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina) laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 19, 1997.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I am writing to confirm I am going to take a leave of absence from the Government Reform and Oversight Committee this session of Congress.

This letter follows my earlier request made on January 23, 1997. Thank you in advance for honoring this request.

Sincerely,

ROBERT L. EHRLICH, Jr.,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

WORKING FAMILIES FLEXIBILITY ACT OF 1997

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 99 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 99

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 1(b) of rule XXIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide compensatory time for employees in the private sector. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. No amendment shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each amendment may be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a

demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. An amendment designated to be offered by the chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce or his designee may be offered en bloc with one or more other such amendments. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Ohio [Ms. PRYCE] is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the very distinguished ranking member of the Committee on Rules, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MOAKLEY], pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 99 is a fair and balanced rule providing for the consideration of H.R. 1, the Working Families Flexibility Act, also known as the comp time bill. The rule provides for 1 hour of general debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. The rule makes in order an amendment in the nature of a substitute from the Committee on Education and the Workforce now printed in the bill as original text for amendment purposes.

The rule first makes in order those amendments printed in the Committee on Rules report accompanying this resolution. Briefly, they include a set of amendments to be offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. GOODLING], the chairman, or a designee that would, among other changes, sunset the entire bill after 5 years.

The Goodling amendment would also require an employee to have worked at least 1,000 hours in a period of continuous employment for a specific employer in the 12 months prior to the time when the employee agrees to a comp time arrangement.

Mr. Speaker, this is a very important addition to the bill that I believe carefully addresses concerns that have been voiced by those in the construction and seasonal industries. I strongly urge its support on the floor later today.

There is also an amendment by the gentleman from New York [Mr. OWENS] which would exempt certain lower wage workers from the bill and an amendment in the nature of a substitute to be offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. MILLER]. Under the rule, these amendments shall be considered in the order specified, shall